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duty "to defend and maintain it." Then came the period when military power dominated the situation and in Boston at least, pamphlets and newspapers opposed to the crown were arbitrarily suppressed.

The state constitution asserted that liberty of the press was essential to the security of freedom in the state and therefore ought not to be restrained. Unrestricted but undefined freedom of the press then became part of the organic law of Massachusetts. The author closes his exposition of the subject with a discussion of the law of libel in the state of Massachusetts from the adoption of the constitution to the present time.

An appendix is annexed to the volume containing copies of documents illustrative of the subject discussed. A second appendix has a valuable note on sources and a full list of the secondary authorities which are cited. A carefully prepared index closes the volume, which forms a valuable addition to the *Harvard Historical Studies* series in which it is published, and of which it forms the twelfth volume.

ANDREW MCFARLAND DAVIS.

Quakerism and Politics: Essays. By ISAAC SHARPLESS, LL.D.
(Philadelphia: Ferris and Leach. 1905. Pp. 224.)

THIS modest volume comprises nine essays or addresses chiefly historical in character. The majority of these relate to features of early Pennsylvania history not usually emphasized, as the following enumeration of some of the titles will reveal: "A Government of Idealists", "The Friend in Politics", "A Colonial Peace Controversy", "How the Friends Freed their Slaves", "The Welsh Settlers of Haverford". Two treat of subsequent periods in the history of the state; the one entitled "The Causes of Pennsylvania's Ills" was first published in the *Atlantic Monthly* as a reply to an earlier article on "The Ills of Pennsylvania", which had attracted considerable attention, in part by reason of its attributing the political ills of the state to the non-militant habits impressed upon it by its Quaker founders; the other upon "The Improvement of Pennsylvania Politics" presents a picture of political depravity during the years immediately following the Revolution. The two remaining papers, treating of "The Friends' Meeting" and "The Basis of Quaker Morality", may be regarded as a presentation and justification of Quaker theory and practice. "As a whole", the author informs us, these essays "are intended to show that the foundation principles of the colony, on which it greatly prospered,—liberty, peace, justice to Indians and negroes, simplicity and fidelity in government—were logical outgrowths of the Quaker habit of mind and doctrine".

The papers relating to the early history of Pennsylvania, in the main, are non-controversial in tone and present a frank and truthful view of the part the Friends played in the politics of the colony. The author indicates how a great Quaker political machine was built up during the eighteenth century, and how effective it was in keeping control of the

provincial politics. To this end, at times its leaders resorted to acts which "verged on the methods of the sharp politician". While admitting that often "the basis of their morality was defective", that the Friends were often opportunists and sometimes violated their own principles, yet Dr. Sharpless maintains that in the main they remained true to their ideals and surrendered their political control rather than violate their principles. In discussing Penn's Indian policy, incidentally the opportunity is taken to controvert, with considerable success, the contention of Parkman and John Fiske that the success of this policy was due to the character of the Indians rather than to "Quaker justice". The author, however, in his admiration for Quaker principles is led to declare that "the Declaration of Independence was simply the assertion of Penn's position (in regard to liberty), and the negative of the New England statement and practice". This conclusion seems both forced and unjust.

In the essays dealing with later conditions of Pennsylvania politics, not only does Dr. Sharpless easily refute the contention of the anonymous author of "The Ills of Pennsylvania", but in several of the other essays he endeavors to show, possibly with less success, the enduring effect of Quaker principles in American politics. He summons Friends to participate again actively in politics in order to aid in their purification and in securing greater efficiency in the government. It is of interest to note that since the publication of this volume, the author has put his precepts into practice by responding to the call of his fellow-citizens to stand for political office.

There are a few instances of careless proof-reading in the volume, the most noticeable ones occurring on pages 39 and 42.

HERMAN V. AMES.

The Present State of the European Settlements on the Mississippi.

By Captain PHILIP PITTMAN, with introduction, notes and index by FRANK HEYWOOD HODDER. (Cleveland: A. H. Clark Company. 1906. Pp. 165.)

Personal Narrative of Travels in Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky; and of a Residence in the Illinois Territory: 1817-1818. By ELIAS PYM FORDHAM. Edited by FREDERICK AUSTIN OGG. (Cleveland: A. H. Clark Company. 1906. Pp. 248.)

Audubon's Western Journal: 1849-1850, with biographical memoir by his daughter, MARIA A. AUDUBON, introduction, notes, and index by FRANK HEYWOOD HODDER. (Cleveland: A. H. Clark Company. 1906. Pp. 243.)

THIS Western publishing house continues its contributions to the study of Western history by three volumes, only one of which is a